

August 1, 2016

Don Stevens, Chief  
Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk - Abenaki Nation  
156 Bacon Drive  
Shelburne, VT 05482

RE: Tribal request to gather plants on lands within the boundary of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) licensed Projects #1889 and #2485 (Project Lands).

Dear Chief Stevens:

This letter authorizes the collection of plants by members of the Nulhegan Band of the Coosuk – Abenaki Nation on FirstLight Project Lands in Massachusetts, Vermont and New Hampshire for non-commercial purposes. The intent of the Nulhegan is to remove plants in minimal amounts that are considered important for traditional ceremonies and medicinal purposes.

All collections shall occur within the following parameters:

1. All gathering shall occur in a sustainable manner that ensures populations are the same size or larger the year following each harvest.
2. Only hand tools will be used during hunting and gathering activities.
3. Amounts harvested shall be able to be carried out by the person(s) collecting, in bags or baskets. Wheelbarrows, wagons or other wheeled or non-wheeled carts or devices may not be used to transport harvests on and from FirstLight property.
4. No species listed on federal or state endangered, threatened, or Species of Special Concern lists may be collected on FirstLight Project Lands. Tribe members shall consult federal and state lists before each harvest to ensure that these species are not harvested. If tribe members are unsure if a plant they wish to collect is on the list, they should further consult with FirstLight prior to collecting.
5. FirstLight reserves the right to prevent collection from Project Lands where the safety of tribe members or FirstLight staff, or the projects' operations could be impacted.
6. Collecting activity within the project boundary of any hydroelectric license issued by the FERC must be consistent with the purposes of protecting and enhancing the scenic, recreational, and other environmental values of the licensed project. Also, notwithstanding any provision contained herein, FirstLight has the right to perform all acts required by an order of the FERC on project lands and waters.
7. Prior to any collection by tribe members, they are to notify FirstLight Land Manager, Beth Bazler one week before any planned harvest. Ms. Bazler may exercise the right to accompany tribe members in the field to mark places where plants are collected. If this marking occurs, then the tribe members and Ms. Bazler will plan to revisit the area the following growing season to determine if criteria #1 and #4 above have been met.
8. A copy of this letter shall be carried by tribe members harvesting on FirstLight property.
9. The terms and conditions of this letter will remain in effect for one year and shall be renewed at the sole discretion of FirstLight Power Resources. FirstLight also reserves the right to deny access to its properties for collection purposes at any time during the term of this agreement.

We look forward to establishing a mutually beneficial relationship that allows tribe members to collect from FirstLight property the foods and medicines that support your long history and cultural tradition.

Sincerely,



Gus Bakas